

Consulate in the Community

December 2009

U.S. Consulate General and Commercial Service in Hong Kong Help Disney, Major U.S. Investor/Corporate Citizen, to 'Spread The Magic'



On December 13, Acting Consul General Christopher J. Marut joined visiting Chairman of Walt Disney Parks & Resorts and leadership of the Hong Kong Government-- which holds 52% of the Hong Kong Disneyland j/v--to break ground on the park's first expansion. Adding 3 new sections from 2012-14 will create 3,700 new jobs (Disney is already among HK's top employers) and increase visitors by 60%. Disney will shoulder the \$465m needed for expansion.

First Degree Granting U.S. Campus Opens in Hong Kong



On December 10, Acting Consul General Christopher J. Marut spoke at the Heritage Commencement Ceremony for Savannah College of Arts and Design (SCAD) Hong Kong at the North Kowloon Magistracy Building. A/CG Marut said, "SCAD's arrival will additionally spur the growth of Hong Kong's "Creative Industries Cluster" by nurturing indigenous talent to support the very sectors in which Hong Kong is already strong and wishes to get stronger: film and digital entertainment of all sorts, graphic design and related areas. Pictured here from Left to Right: Benjamin Lau and Douglas Young, Co-founders G.O.D. Design House; John Paul Rowan, Vice President SCAD-Hong Kong; Paula Wallace, President SCAD; Alan Siu, Deputy Secretary for Commerce & Economic Development (Communications & Technology) and acting Head of CreateHK; A/CG Marut; May Chan, District Officer, Sham Shui Po; Wing Man Lo, District Councilman, Sham Shui Po.

November 2009

Cosmoprof Asia

From 11-13 November, the Conference & Exhibition Center in Wanchai was the site of one of the top trade shows for the cosmetics and toiletries industry, Cosmoprof Asia. During an action- (and powder) packed three-days, over 40 U.S. companies outlined business opportunities in the current global economic climate. Kicking off the networking reception, hosted annually by the Commercial Service, Acting Counsel General Christopher J. Marut welcomed U.S. firms, international distributors, and colleagues from as far afield as Vladivostock, Russia who brought delegations of buyers to the show.



Acting Counsel General Christopher J. Marut, welcomes U.S., Hong Kong and other companies attending Cosmoprof Asia, the area's top beauty sector trade show.



The solution to the economy's problems is finding the right makeover.

Consulate's School Outreach Program features speaker on U.S. Popular Culture



On November 9, Fulbright English Teaching Assistant Kyndra Turner gave a one-hour talk on U.S. Popular Culture at Hong Kong Taoist Association Ching Chung Secondary School as part of the U.S. Consulate General Hong Kong School Outreach Program.

Future Journalists in Macau Inspired by U.S. Pulitzer Prize Winner



On November 6, the Consulate arranged for John Amoss, two-time Pulitzer Prize winner, to travel to Macau University (UMAC) to lecture on "The Future of Newspapers," at a seminar hosted by UMAC's Department of Communication. Amoss spoke to a class of 40 students.

"Study in the U.S." Program for Macau Students



On November 6, the Information Resource Center arranged "Study in the U.S." seminars at Macau University of Science and Technology (MUST) and at the American Corner at the University of Macau (UMAC). Consular Officer Sarah Shabbir and IIE representatives Michelle Mak and Kristen Williams talked to approximately 100 MUST students and 55 UMAC students about graduate studies and visa issues.

October 2009

Commercial Service demonstrates that Social Responsibility can be a "Day at the Beach"



On October 30, Commercial Service staff and interns at the U.S. Consulate General Hong Kong joined the local affiliate of the International Coastal Cleanup (an initiative of the Ocean Conservancy) for an afternoon combing the coast of a popular Hong Kong Island beach, where the team disposed of some 300 pounds of scrap and detritus, the accumulation of which threatens marine life, not to mention the enjoyment of Hong Kong's stunning natural beauty. The tri-part aim of the annual clean-up campaign is to remove trash, record its make-up, and help change behavior.

USS George Washington Strike Group Sailors Support Local Community



350 sailors from the USS George Washington Strike Group undertook 18 Community Service projects during their port call on Hong Kong from October 29 to November 3. Pictured here are sailors playing basketball with kids, dancing with China Coast residents, and cleaning up brush.

"From the Civil Rights Movement to Obama's Presidency"



On October 22, Consular speaker Victor Marsh discussed the path "From the Civil Rights Movement to Obama's Presidency" at Hong Kong Baptist University (HKBU). Marsh addressed a crowded room of 80 undergraduates from all disciplines as the concluding speaker of the university's two-day International Festival. Marsh called the Declaration of Independence the clearest statement of American values and emphasized the American commitment to the defense of freedom. He concluded by refuting myths and misconceptions about the U.S.

US Pavilion Touts Green Buildings at Macau International Trade and Investment Fair



On October 22, A/CG Christopher J. Marut presided over the opening ceremony of the U.S. Pavilion at the 14th Macau International Trade and Investment Fair (MIF) at the Venetian Macau Resort. The A/CG said, "The United States is committed to sustainable development and we are one of the world leaders in green building technologies and other environmental solutions."

RELO Damon Anderson Promotes American English in Hong Kong and Macau



From October 19 to 23, Regional English Language Officer (RELO) Damon Anderson visited Hong Kong and Macau to promote the use of American English and American teaching methods. He gave lectures on English teaching and U.S. culture to more than a 1,000 students and teachers at CHC Living Spirit College and Evangel College in Hong Kong and Escola Catolica Estrela do Mar in Macau. He also participated in the University of Macau's English Festival and gave three lectures to about 40 teachers and more than 300 university students.

Grant Award Ceremony at Macau University of Science and Technology



On October 23, Public Affairs Officer Joseph Bookbinder presented a "giant" check for US\$10,000 to the Macau University of Science and Technology (MUST) Library to establish an American Studies Collection. The funds will be used to acquire a broad range of materials on American Studies.

Award to Ship Owners Highlights Continued U.S.-Hong Kong Cooperation



Economics and Political (E/P) Section Chief Martin Murphy presented awards to eighteen Hong Kong ship owners and ship managers on behalf of the U.S. Coast Guard for their continued participation in the automated mutual assistance vessel rescue system (Amver).

September 2009

30 Years of U.S.-Sino Diplomatic Relations Photo Exhibition in Macau



On September 22, the traveling photo exhibition "30 Years of U.S.-Sino Diplomatic Relations" came to Macau after touring the mainland and Hong Kong. The Acting Consul General participated in the Opening Ceremony and delivered remarks. The event highlighted the positive development of relations between the two countries.

Students in Hong Kong and Macau Engage Speaker



On September 22, independent media consultant Ann Olson addressed journalism students at the University of Hong Kong and at Hong Kong Baptist University. At each venue, the audience of 30-40 graduate students posed questions following Olson's talk about the impact of the digital age on the practice of journalism and traditional business models.



On September 23, Olson traveled to Macau to deliver her presentation on media in the digital age. She spoke with communications majors at the University of Macau and later to an auditorium filled with more than 80 students at Macau Polytechnic Institute. The students came from various academic disciplines, including computer science majors, who were interested in the technical aspects of media in the digital age. Olson spoke about new tools that can enhance reporting, citing the example of the NewYorkTimes.com special section on the architecture of the Beijing 2008 Olympics. She hailed the ability to "show"-- instead of simply "telling" -- how the new Beijing International Airport terminal was the largest building in the world through the use of graphic technology which superimposed the layout of the terminal on the expanse of a map of the island of Manhattan.

Asian Aerospace 2009 Expo in Hong Kong



On September 3, Acting Commercial Service Chief Eric Crowley spoke at the pre-event press conference announcing the opening of the Asian Aerospace 2009 Expo in Hong Kong, an event in which several U.S. companies participated.

American Corner Supports Student Activities



In September, more than 100 students participated in activities hosted over four days by the Fulbright English Teaching Assistants at the University of Macau's English Language Center, which included language and cultural exchanges.



On September 8, Acting Consul General Christopher Marut addressed the guests at the U.S. Networking Reception organized by the Commercial Service at the Asian Aerospace Expo in Hong Kong. "Given its importance as an end market, a gateway to China, and a springboard into other regional Asian markets, we believe Hong Kong is an ideal venue for Asian Aerospace," Marut said.



Robert Hollander, the Cessna Citation Sales Director for the Asia Pacific, (left), Christopher Marut, Acting Consul General of the U.S. Consulate in Hong Kong (Center), and Eric Crowley, Acting Commercial Services Chief (right) meet with reporters after touring a Citation aircraft on the static display at the Asian Aerospace Expo.

August 2009



Over 40 U.S. sailors endured Hong Kong's summer heat on Sunday, August 2, while clearing away tons of rocks and debris at the Cham Shan Monastery in Clear Water Bay. The clean-up volunteers are part of the crew of the Navy's USS Paul Hamilton (DDG-60), which was visiting Hong Kong.

July 2009

Serving the local community: Consulate group volunteers with Project C.A.R.E.



On July 11, Diane Maloney, Consular Chief Steve Maloney's spouse, led a group of eleven Consulate officers and their spouses on a community service program with 20 children from Project C.A.R.E., a Hong Kong Christian Service program for at-risk children and adolescents. The group visited two group homes in the New Territories in a full-day program arranged by a senior social worker from the Hong Kong civil service. The Consulate group joined the children on a bus tour to a Hakka "farmhouse" where they played games and barbequed, followed by a stop at a "fishing village" in Tai Po.

U.S. Independence Day Reception in Macau



Consul General and Mrs. Joseph R. Donovan Jr. toast CE Edmund Ho and the people of Macau during the U.S. Independence Day Reception held on July 6, 2009 at the MGM Grand Macau.

(Remarks)



On July 3, 2009, during a reception in Hong Kong, the Secretary for Justice, the Honorable Wong Yan Lung, and U.S. Consul General Joseph R. Donovan Jr. exchanged toasts in honor of the people of the Hong Kong SAR, the People's Republic of China and the United States of America.

(Remark)

May 2009



On May 30, 2009, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives Nancy Pelosi and members of the Congressional delegation to China on energy and environment toured the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks. They saw a display of cutting-edge LED lighting applications at CREE Hong Kong, Ltd.; here they pose in front of a sample solar panel at DuPont Apollo with General Manager George So, U.S. Consul General Donovan, and Rep's Markey, Inslee and Blumenauer. The representatives praised Hong Kong's infrastructure and IPR protections and hailed CREE and DuPont Apollo's efforts to promote energy efficiency and renewable energy R&D.

Commemorating American Memorial Day in Macau



On May 22, Consul General Joseph R. Donovan and a small delegation from the Consulate General went to the historic Old Protestant Cemetery in Macau to lay wreaths in honor of the 22 19th century American diplomats and service members buried there. The Macau government was represented by Secretary for Administration and Justice Florinda Chan. A group of 20 community and religious leaders participated in the short memorial service.

• Remarks on the Occasion of Wreath Laying at the Old Protestant Cemetery in Macau (5/22/2009)

April 2009

Consulate General Hong Kong Highlights U.S. efforts to Combat Global Health Issues



Foreign Service Health Practitioner Christine Rada represented the U.S. Consulate General Hong Kong at the 6th Annual AIDS Festival organized by St. John's Cathedral HIV Prevention Center. In her speech, Ms. Rada related the U.S. Government's substantial financial commitment to eradicate HIV/AIDS and urged solidarity among world leaders to join together in the fight against this preventable disease.

U.S. Consulate General to supports U.S. "green" business ventures in Macau



On April 2, Deputy Consul General Christopher Marut and Macau Financial Secretary Francis Tam opened the U.S. pavilion at the Macau International Environmental Expo. The 10 American exhibitors introduced a wide range of American environmental solutions, including "green building" design services, emissions control technologies, corn-based biodegradable products, and waterless urinals.



Chief Executive Edmund Ho stops by the U.S. pavilion at the Macau International Environmental Expo, April 2, 2009.

February 2009



Consul General Joseph R. Donovan throws out the first ball at the Phoenix Cup Hong Kong International Women's Baseball Tournament, 14 Feb 2009, at Sai Tso Wan Field.

January 2009



U.S. Consul General Joseph R. Donovan gives a toast to incoming President Obama at the American Community Inaugural Celebration late in the evening January 20 at the Foreign Correspondents' Club in Hong Kong. The Celebration was organized by the League of Women's Voters.



U.S. Consulate General Hong Kong staff Dale Kreisher (Public Affairs) and Adrian Dorman (Economic and Political Section), left and second from left in the photo, represented the Consulate at the grand unveiling ceremony of a wax likeness of President Barack Obama at Madame Tussauds Hong Kong on January 20. The unveiling of the wax sculpture of President Obama, the newest exhibit at the famous wax museum's Hong Kong branch, was timed to coincide with the U.S. Presidential Inauguration. Also in attendance (and one of the featured speakers for the event) was American Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong President Richard Vuylsteke, on the right in the photo.



Consular Chief addresses new American students at CityU (January 9, 2009)



Consular officer talking to students at CityU (January 9, 2009)



Consular Chief answers questions from students at HKU (January 9, 2009)